



• INFO memo - March 12, 2004

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‘Slumber in the Slammer’ Set for March 26

The first “residents” in the new City of Broken Arrow Jail may not be hardened criminals or even men or women who have been arrested. In fact, those first residents may be paying to get *in* the jail instead of paying to get *out*.

With the opening of Broken Arrow Criminal Justice Center just a few weeks away, the Police Department is planning a couple of special events centered around the facility just south of the current Police Station on South 1st Place.

“Slumber in the Slammer” will be held March 26, starting at 8 p.m. and continuing through 12:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Broken Arrow Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association, the event will cost \$25 in advance or \$35 at the door. The money will benefit the CPAAA and the Special Olympics, and the night is open to the public. There will also be a free open house later in the spring.

Those attending the March 26 benefit will be “booked” when they arrive at the Justice Center, going through the entire process, including having mug shots taken. At 9 p.m. Police Chief Todd Wuestewald will speak, as will a volunteer for the Special Olympics.

Guests will then be given tours of the new building, including the Municipal Court which has been hailed by Judge Merl Whitebook as one of the finest he’s ever seen in this area. Court sessions will be moved from City Hall Council Chambers to the new facility, as will Court Clerk offices.

Live bands will be performing during Slumber in the Slammer, and area restaurants will provide hors d’ oeuvres. There will be demonstrations by the BAPD K-9 unit and the Special Operations Team.

And for those who want a closer look at the new jail on the north end of the building, they can rent a cell from 11:30 to 12:30 for \$50.

The Criminal Justice Center was constructed with funds from the 2000 bond issue, with ground broken just over a year ago.

Park & Rec Maintenance Staying Busy

Before the first pitch can be thrown or the first ball hit off a tee or the first soccer goal scored, Phil Hink and his maintenance crews with the Broken Arrow Parks & Recreation Department put in a lot of time and effort – even when the weather isn't mindful of spring sports.

As the City keeps adding more and more baseball and soccer fields, there is more and more work to be done in preparation for the teams which will be using them. Both baseball and soccer have kicked off their 2004 seasons, and softball teams are playing at the Arrowhead Park Complex.

In addition to routine maintenance such as striping fields, working on turf and making irrigation and guttering repairs and fencing updates, Hinks' crews have been finishing painting of the Broken Arrow Community Playhouse theatre at The Main Place, making repairs to water lines and concessions stands at the parks, fixing leaks in some of the facility roofs, and continuing work at other parks.

Mark Higgins and his horticulture staff have been hard at work preparing Jackson Park and the Ray Harral Nature Center for spring, as well as adding final details to an irrigation system at City Hall that will save a great deal of money.

City Sponsors Hershey Track Meet Again

The deadline for registration in the Hershey Track & Field Meet at South Intermediate High School is only two weeks away.

After a very successful debut last year, the event will once again be sponsored by the Broken Arrow Parks & Recreation Department on Saturday, April 3.

The competition, open to boys and girls ages 9 to 14, is one of several across the nation. Qualifiers here advance to the state meet. There is a regional level and then a national championship in August. All are part of the Hershey's Youth Program (Hershey chocolate in Pennsylvania).

Entries must be hand delivered to or filled out at the Broken Arrow Community Center no later than 6 p.m. Friday, March 26. A legal birth certificate must accompany each entry.

Ribbons will be awarded to the first six placers in each event. The first two placers in each event qualify for the June 26 State Meet in Norman.

Last year one relay team from Muskogee advanced to the Nationals. Several others made it to the regionals.

There are sprint races for individuals in each age group, as well as relays for the older competitors and field events. Age divisions are 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14 for both boys and girls.

For more information go to the Community Center at 1500 S. Main or call Melissa Parker at 259-8437.

Beginners Volleyball Program Available

Registration ended Friday for the spring volleyball leagues which start next week at the BA Community Center in Central Park, but there is still time to sign up for a beginners volleyball class which begin April 6.

Melissa Parker, Director of the Recreation Programs for Parks & Recreation, stated the class would cost \$20 and would consist of Tuesday and Thursday sessions from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. over a period of six weeks. It's designed for players 10 years of age and up. Deadline for registration is March 23.

For more information call Parker at 259-8438 or email her at mparker@brokenarrowok.gov.

City Struts Stuff at Home, Garden Show

When the 2004 Greater Tulsa Home & Garden Show began Thursday night, the City of Broken Arrow was back in its usual spot – right in the middle of things at Main and Creekmore on the upper level.

This year the BA Police Department has taken a lead role in putting together the booth, with a focus on “neighborhoods” and public safety. Lisa Ford, Crime Prevention Specialist, and David Blue of the Parks & Recreation Department have been working on the booth design. Branon Dodd, Risk Management Director for the City, has a large display on how to be prepared for severe weather and other types of disasters.

Volunteers from the City will man the booth throughout the show until it ends Sunday night, and plenty of free information will be available all four days and nights.

River Development Meeting Coming to BA

One of the series of meetings being held by the Indian Nations Council of Governments (INCOG) and planners of development along the Arkansas River will be coming to Broken Arrow's Community Center in Central Park on Friday, March 26. The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. and is open to the public.

INCOG and Carter-Burgess, organizations which have been given the challenge of developing a master plan for the 42-mile stretch of river running through Tulsa County, are holding these informal meetings to give area residents an opportunity to provide input and make comments about the plans for the Arkansas, running from the Keystone Dam to the Wagoner County Line.

The first “visioning” phase is expected to be finished in June. The Vision and Master Plan should be finished in early 2005.